

MELKRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 4 October 2022 at 7.00pm

PRESENT: Cllr T Lewis (Chairman), Cllr M Oliver, Cllr S Vallance

In attendance: Mrs K Little – Clerk

County Councillor Alan Sharp

Chris Curtis, Senior Programme Officer, NCC

2 Members of the Public

358/22 Apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Hingston and Cllr Stronach

359/22 Discuss 685 Bus timetable changes

Cllr Lewis thanked Chris for attending the meeting to discuss timetable changes.

Chris Curtis introduced himself and explained two bus companies, Stagecoach and Arriva run the 685 commercial bus services, which provide the bus service for Melkridge and NCC only broker discussions.

The number of buses providing the service was reduced about 4 years ago as it was financially unsustainable and the timetable was changed. Arriva drivers have now raised safety concerns when buses are meeting in Melkridge, which led to a new bus time table being introduced which only services Melkridge on a two hourly basis.

Discussions were held regarding accuracy of boarding numbers, drivers not following the new timetable, concessionary travel, layby infrastructure to enable the bus to stop on the A69 and request for the bus to travel via Whitchester from A69.

Chris stated he was happy to work with Stagecoach and Arriva and he agreed to arrange the reinstatement of the first and last bus, review concessionary ticket times to enable travel before 9.00am and provide up to date data.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

**SIGNED AND ACCEPTED AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE ACCOUNT OF THE
MINUTES FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 4 OCTOBER 2022**

Chairperson.....

Date.....